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# BULLETIN

— OF THE —

# British Columbia Entomological Society

QUARTERLY MARCH, 1906 No. 1

## TO OUR MEMBERS

Ever since our Society was formed, we have laboured under a difficulty which has severely handicapped our work, namely the distance which separates individual members. Except in Vancouver, where we have about eight members, it is impossible to hold meetings for want of a quorum. Nor are all our members endowed with means or leisure enough to enable them to attend meetings at a distance.

Attempts have been made to meet this difficulty by sending round MS. notes, but here the neglect of one member has often thrown the whole system out of gear.

Last December the Secretary approached the Provincial Department of Agriculture to obtain aid in printing a regular Bulletin of our proceedings and work. This assistance has been promised for one year, and it rests with us to prove to the Department the value of our work.

The Bulletin will be published quarterly in March, June, September and December, and a copy will be sent to each member, and to those friends in Eastern Canada and elsewhere who have taken an interest in our doings.

We do not propose to publish any original descriptions, but contributions will be welcomed on classification, distribution, noxious and beneficial insects, breeding, setting methods, and so on. We shall be very largely dependent for copy on the hearty co-operation of every individual member who does anything more than amass a number of un-named specimens—who takes pains to have his material determined by competent authority, even if he has no time or inclination to go deeper into the study. We venture, therefore, to give a few hints as to the way in which this Bulletin may be made most helpful and the general work of the Society more valuable.

1. Collect in several orders, but specialize in one at a time. Let the other members know—through the Bulletin—what you want and what you have to offer.

2. In your special order, send small boxes of un-named specimens to expert authorities. Do not hold on to unknown uniques; a name without an insect is often better than an insect without a name. Do not grudge the expert the few specimens he may retain for his trouble. Send the amount of return postage with the box. If an interesting letter comes back with the insects, let us have extracts at least, so that all may benefit.

3. In orders not specially studied, pick up what comes your way, but label with as much care as the others. Send boxes now and then to a member who may be specially studying that order. In exchanges, make it a rule always to send back rather more than you receive.

4. Keep records of interesting captures, and make lists of all captures in new localities. Try to breed insects known to be uncommon, and keep notes of everything.

### OUR WORK.

For the last four or five years our Society has been steadily working at that order which generally attracts the first attention of the collector, the Lepidoptera. In 1898 the B. C. list in this order comprised 90 butterflies and 70 moths. The list now being printed under the auspices of the Society will show that we have not been idle.

But although there is no finality about such a list—for new species are constantly turning up—yet some of us are giving our attention to other orders, in which no regular lists have as yet been published.

For the benefit of those who are studying these other orders, it may be useful to give a brief summary of the work that has been done already, either by our own members or by other entomologists.

Coleoptera—No list has been published in any way pretending to represent the result of our joint researches. The following papers relate in part, or wholly, to our fauna:

Coleoptera of Canada, by Dr. Wickham, Canadian Entomologist, 1894 to 1899.

Coleoptera of the Queen Charlotte Islands, by Rev. J. H. Keen, Can. Ent., 1895.

Coleoptera of Metlakatla and district, by Rev. J. H. Keen, Can. Ent., 1905.

Some Canadian Longicorns, by W. H. Harrington, in Can. Ent., 1899.

Among ourselves our president has collected for some years, and Mr. Hanham has studied the order in Victoria and neighborhood. Mr. Venables has added a large number of names from the Vernon district. The Secretary has a provisional list of some 800 species, compiled from all sources. If we cannot publish this as a whole, we intend to give, in this paper, lists of separate families with all known localities.

Hymenoptera—Matters in this order are in much the same condition, the order having until recently received very little attention. Several papers have appeared from time to time in the Canadian Entomologist.

Hymenoptera of Vancouver Island, by Rev. G. W. Taylor, Can. Ent.

Parasitic, &c., Hymenoptera of B. C., by W. H. Harrington, Can. Ent., 1898.

Bees of Oregon, Washington and B. C., by H. L. Viereck, Can. Ent., 1904-1905.

Mr. E. P. Venables has again a good number of names to his credit from Vernon. The Secretary's list contains about 350-400 names, but he hopes to augment this number soon by the help of Dr. Ashmead, who has kindly undertaken to name a lot of Hymenoptera.

Diptera—Until the last two years nothing had been done, but a visit from Professor Osburn of New York incited some of our members to study this interesting but much neglected order. In Prof. Osburn, Prof. Hine of Ohio, and Prof. Coquillett of Washington, we have found energetic and generous helpers, and our list now musters about 230 species, of which 80 are Syrphidae. Most of these appears in two papers by Professors Hine and Osburn in the Can. Ent., 1904. Mr. Venables is collecting at Vernon, and Messrs. Sherman and Harvey at Vancouver.

The remaining orders are almost untouched, but Mr. Taylor has compiled a very respectable list of B. C. Hemiptera, especially the family Pentatomidae. Mr. Nathan Banks, Professor Ball, and Professor Van Duzee have given us valuable assistance in various orders. Dr. Fletcher of Ottawa has ever been our guide, philosopher and friend, and our debt to him is great. Of our other helpers we must not fail to mention Dr. Dyar, Dr. J. B. Smith, Dr. Skinner, Dr. Barnes and Mr. W. D. Kearfoot in Lepidoptera; Dr. Wickham and Messrs. Schwarz and Harris in Coleoptera; Dr. Ashmead, Mr. Harrington and Mr. Viereck in Hymenoptera.

We append a few references to papers on various orders bearing upon our fauna:

Orthoptera—Thirteen B. C. species; Ent. News, Feb., 1904; A. N. Caudell.

Asemoplus, new species from Sandon; Can. Ent. XXX., 197; E. M. Walker.

Stenopelmatidae; 6 species from B. C. Can. Ent. XXXI., 113; S. H. Scudder.

Trimerotropis; 3 species from B. C. Can. Ent. XXXIV., 3; E. M. Walker.

Twenty-seven species from B. C. Can. Ent. Feb., 1906, XX., E. M. Walker.

Homoptera—Three new Bythoscopidae from Vanc. Isd; Can. Ent. XXXIV., 303.

Odonata—Forty B. C. species; Ent. News, June, 1905. R. C. Osburn.

We might add, for the benefit of non-members, that our annual subscription is one dollar; junior members fifty cents. This carries with it full membership in the Entomological Society of Ontario (of which we are an affiliated branch), and the right to receive the Canadian Entomologist (monthly), the B. C. Bulletin (quarterly), and the Report of the Ontario Society (annually), besides occasional publications.

Active workers in any order will be welcomed to our ranks, and every effort will be made to help and encourage beginners.

## LIST OF OUR MEMBERS.

PRESIDENT—Rev. G. W. Taylor, Wellington:—Lepidoptera (Geometridae); Coleoptera, Hemiptera.

VICE-PRESIDENT—T. Wilson, corner Spruce and Ninth Avenue, Vancouver, Injurious Insects.

SECRETARY—R. V. Harvey, Queen's School, Vanconver; Lepidoptera; Diptera and other orders.

J. R. Anderson, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Victoria.

E. M. Anderson, Asst. Curator, Provincial Museum, Victoria;—Lepidoptera.

A. H. Bush, Spruce and Ninth Avenue, Vanconver.—Lepidoptera.

Theo. Bryant, Vancouver.—Lepidoptera (Tineoidea).
J. W. Cockle, Kaslo Hotel, Kaslo.—Lepidoptera.
W. A. Dashwood-Jones, Tax Collector's Office, New Westminster.—Lepidoptera.
R. Draper, Mount Pleasant P. O., Vancouver.—Lepidoptera.
W. H. Danby, P. O. Box 812, Rossland.—Lepidoptera.
Rev. G. H. Findlay, Fort Steele.
A. W. Hanham, Bank of B. N. A., Duncans.—Lepidoptera, Coleoptera.
F. Foster, 1359 Davie St., Vancouver.—Coleoptera.
C. Livingston, Duncans.—Lepidoptera, &c.
B. Marrion, 229 Twelfth Avenue, Vancouver.—Lepidoptera.
E. Baynes-Reed, Meteorological Office, Victoria.
R. S. Sherman, 2285 Sixth Avenue, Vancouver.—Lepidoptera, Diptera, &c.
E. M. Skinner, Duncans.—Lepidoptera.
Jas. Towler, 273 Dufferin Street, Vancouver.—Lepidoptera.
E. P. Venables, Vernon—Lepidoptera, Coleoptera, Hymenoptera.

## ENTOMOLOGICAL SUPPLIES.

The Secretary has on hand a stock of supplies, which will be sold to members at cost price, plus postage.

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| **Cork**—3-16 in. thick; per square foot | 20c and 30c |
| **Pins**—Black japanned Klaeger; sizes 3, 2, 1, per 500 | 40c |
| Sizes 0 and 00 | 60c |
| Black Minutien, per package of 500 | 75c |
| **Labels**—Stock, per 1000 | 25c |
| Locality, any name to order, per 1000 | 25c |
| (In stock, Vancouver, Wellington, Goldstream). | |
| Cyanide tubes, flat base, 5 by 1 inches, uncharged, each | 10c |
| charged, each | 15c |
| **Boxes**—Double folding, 16 by 12, papered and corked | $2.35 |
| corked, only | 2.25 |
| Glass top, 19 by 16, corked and papered | 2.35 |

## THE ANNUAL MEETING

The fifth Annual Meeting was held at the Queen's School, Vancouver, on Friday, January 26th, 1906. Eight members present.

Messrs. J. R. Anderson, of Victoria, and F. Foster, of Vancouver, were elected members of the Society.

Mr. Harvey's proposal concerning the printing of a Bulletin of the Society's work and proceedings was discussed and approved; a committee was appointed, consisting of the President and Secretary, to arrange for its publication.

Mr. Dashwood-Jones showed some very interesting Lepidoptera which he had received from Arrow and Kootenay Lakes. Among them was a specimen of a dark ocellated **Coenonympha** resembling **ignorata Edw.** Dr. Skinner considers this as a variety of the European **C. tiphon.** No specimen of **C. ampelos** has as yet been found in B. C. with any trace of ocelli.

Messrs. Marrion and Draper also showed some Lepidoptera, the latter having a fine series of Lepisesia ulalume Streck.

## THE BRITISH COLUMBIA LIST

### Coleoptera. Family Coccinellidae.

These are the well-known "lady-birds," or "lady-bugs"; red or yellow with black spots, or black with red spots; more or less hemispherical in shape. They are of the greatest economic importance, the larvae being the best natural enemy of scale insects and plant-lice. The larvae and pupae are often brightly colored like the adults. At least eight of our species are found also in Eastern Canada. The numbers refer to Henshaw's List.

**Hippodamia Muls.**

3041 **5-signata Kby.** Mt. Cheam, Vernon, Kamloops? Shawnigan?
3042 **ambigua Lec.**
3043 **lecontei Muls.** Wellington. var; a moesta Lec. Victoria, Goldstream, Wellington, Vancouver.
3046 **convergens Guer.** Vernon.
3047 **spuria Lec.** Wellington, Duncans, Vancouver, Vernon.
3049 **sinuata Muls.** Victoria.
3050 **13-punctata Linn.** Victoria, Wellington, Vancouver, Sumas.
3051 **parenthesis Say.** Wellington.

Coccinella, Linn.
3056 **trifasciata Linn.** Victoria, &c., Vancouver, Vernon, Kamloops.
3058 **novemnotata Hbst.** Victoria, &c., Vancouver, Vernon, Queen Charlotte Islands.
3059 **transversoguttata Fab.** Wellington, Vernon; var. b californica Mann. Victoria, Wellington, Vancouver.
3060 **monticola Muls.** Victoria.
3058 **a franciscana Muls.** Victoria.
3061 **prolongata Cr.** Vernon.
3062 **tricuspis Kby?** Vernon.
3063 **annectans Cr.**
3064 **sanguinea Linn.** Victoria, &c., Vancouver, Vernon.
Adalia, Muls.
3066 **frigida Schn.** Wellington.
3067 **bipunctata Linn.** Wellington, Vancouver.
Mysia, Muls.
3074 **hornii Cr.** Victoria, Wellington.
Anatis, Muls.
3075 **15-punctata Oliv.** Victoria.
3076 **rathvoni Lec.** Wellington, Harrison River.
Psyllobora, Muls.
3078a **taedata Lec.** Wellington, Duncans, Vancouver.
Chilocorus, Leach.
3080 **bivulnerus Muls.** Wellington, Vancouver.
Brachyacantha, Chev.
3095a **10-pustulata Melsh.**
Hyperaspis, Chev.
3101 **fimbriata Melsh.**
3102 **lateralis Muls.**
3105 **undulata Say.**
3118 **posticata Lec.** Victoria, Goldstream.
Scymnus, Kug.
3140 **pallens Lec.**
3168 **phelpsii Cr.** Victoria, Goldstream, Wellington.
Coccidula, Kug.
————**occidentalis Horn.** "Vancouver Island and British Columbia" (Wickham).

We intend to publish in an early issue list of the Families—Cicindelidae, Buprestidae, Elateridae and Scarabaeidae.

## NEW RECORDS, LEPIDOPTERA.

237 **Basilarchia arthemis Dru.** Halcyon Hot Springs, Kootenay Lake, Aug. 1903. The first well-authenticated record for B. C. (determined by Dr. Fletcher for Mr. Dashwood-Jones).

**Aplectoides discolor Sm.** New species from Inverness (July 16, '05), and mouth of Skeena R. (June, '05); described by Dr. Smith in the Journ., New York Ent. Society, December, 1905.

6605 **Sthenopis quadiguttatus Grt.** One specimen from Kootenay Lake; determined by Dr. Fletcher for Mr. Dashwood-Jones.

833 **Eubaphe immaculata Reak.** Several specimens at Revelstoke, July, 1904; determined, with a query, by Dr. Dyar for Mr. A. H. Bush.

1721 **Paragrotis furtivus Sm.** Vancouver, July, 1904. Determined by Dr. Smith for Mr. A. H. Bush.

526 **Polites peckius Kby.** Recorded from Nelson by Mrs. Nicoll.

## OCCASIONAL NOTES.

We were pleased to have a visit from Mr. F. H. Wolley-Dod, of Calgary, a few weeks ago. He fortunately just came in for a sample of our finest spring weather, when the moths were just beginning to fly round the lights. Those members whom he visited obtained much benefit from his knowledge of a fauna not far removed from our own.

It is expected that Dr. Dyar will honour us with a visit early in July. We look forward to seeing him again, and hope this time he will stay long enough for us to show him some good collecting.

The 36th Ontario Report contains a valuable paper by Mrs. Nicoll of South Wales, on her recent collecting trip through B. C., with a list of the butterflies taken. In conjunction with Dr. Fletcher's notes at the end, this list throws fresh light upon the distribution of our butterflies. We think No. 27 should be **A. rhodope** and No. 53 **P. barnesii**. No. 104 is most likely our **ladon, var. nigrescens;** No. 107 var. **manitoba;** Nos. 93 and 114 are, we think, erroneously reported from Vancouver.

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